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# THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

## REPORT OF THE AUTUMN MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

THE meeting was called to order in the office of *The Science Press*, in the Grand Central Terminal Building, New York City, at 3 o'clock, November 20, 1921, Chairman Flexner presiding. The following members were present: Cattell, Fairchild, Flexner, Howard, Humphreys, Livingston, MacDougal, Moore, Osborn, Ward. Excepting A. A. Noyes, the entire committee was present.

1. The minutes of the last meeting (April 24, 1921) were approved as mailed to all members of the committee.

2. The permanent secretary's report was considered in some detail and was accepted and ordered filed. A résumé follows:

*The Summarized Proceedings* was published October 10. The membership list was closed June 15, so that the published list is corrected only to that date. 2,300 copies were printed at a cost of \$5,378.58. The preparation of the manuscript cost \$1,313.73 as extra clerical expenses. Adding this amount to the cost of publication gives \$6,692.31. This total cost of the book is partially offset by sales of 1,796 copies amounting to \$2,183.00. The book thus cost the Association \$4,509.31 net, chargeable against the seven years, 1915 to 1921. 130 copies were given away, of which 74 went to general officers, section secretaries, and secretaries of affiliated societies, for their official use. Of the remaining 56 free copies, 53 were complimentary to institutions and libraries outside of the United States, and 3 copies were sent out on account of exchanges.

*Three Booklets* were printed and circulated since the last meeting of the executive committee. By means of one of these the *resolutions* recently adopted by the Association were placed in the hands of all members. About 12,500 copies of that booklet were sent out. *A booklet of general information* was used in the circularization for new members (about 25,000 have been sent out), and another *booklet announcing the Toronto meeting* was sent to all members with the bills of October 1.

*New members* of the affiliated societies and all members of the newly affiliated societies (The American Mathematical Society, The Mathematical Association of America, The American Geographical Society, The American Society for Testing Materials, The American Society of Agronomy, The Society of Sigma Xi, and the Gamma Alpha Gradu-

ate Scientific Fraternity) were invited to join the Association without entrance fee, as far as the necessary lists could be procured. About 20,000 such invitations have been sent out and about 10,000 more will go out when the lists arrive from the society secretaries. 4,300 names for circularization were obtained from the new volume of "American Men of Science." (To Nov. 20, this circularization—of about 24,300 names—has secured 557 new members.) A tabulated membership report will be published later.

3. The general secretary's verbal report was accepted. He reported correspondence with the Utah Academy of Science. This Academy has altered its movement for separation from the Pacific Division. He had been in consultation with officers of sections, and it was believed that stronger council sessions would result at future meetings. He reported that arrangements were being made by which various different interests have been centered in the program of Section C for the Toronto meeting.

A recess, from 6:30 to 8:00, was taken for dinner, after which the committee convened again.

4. Mr. J. B. Tyrrell was elected chairman of Section M and vice-president for that section.

5. Mr. L. W. Wallace was elected secretary of Section M.

5a. Dr. A. B. Macallum, professor of biological chemistry at McGill University, was elected a vice-president, and chairman of Section N.

6. Fifty-six fellows were elected, distributed among the sections as follows:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	M	O	Q
6	3	3	1	4	19	3	2	14	1

7. The American Society of Mammalogists was constituted an affiliated society.

8. It was voted that the American Ceramic Society be invited to become associated and to become affiliated if the number of A. A. A. S. members in the society should prove to warrant affiliation.

9. The Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity was invited to become an associated society.

10. The Canadian Society of Technical Agriculturists was invited to become an associated society.

11. The petition of 32 members resident in State College, Pa., dated November 1, was granted, thus constituting a local branch in that place, to be known as the State College (Pa.) Branch of the A. A. A. S. The branch is to receive 50 cents for each payment of annual dues made to the A. A. A. S. by its members.

12. It was voted that the committee regards it as

desirable that the next volume of Summarized Proceedings be published in fall of 1925, to include the proceedings of the 1924 (Washington) meeting.

13. It was voted that the executive committee recommend to the Council that the 1925 meeting (for the year 1925-6) be held at Kansas City, Mo.

14. The general secretary was instructed to communicate with the Pacific Division and to say that if the Pacific Executive Committee arranged its summer meeting for 1922 in Salt Lake City, the executive committee would consider the matter of arranging a meeting of the whole Association for that time and place.

15. The permanent secretary was instructed to invite all past presidents to be present at the Toronto meeting, especially to attend the sessions of the council at Toronto and to take part in the council's deliberations.

16. The general secretary was asked to invite one or more Russian scientists to attend the Toronto meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10 o'clock, to meet in Toronto, at 10 A.M. on Tuesday, December 27.

BURTON E. LIVINGSTON,  
*Permanent Secretary*

#### EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

##### AN AMERICAN BAMBOO GROVE OPEN TO INVESTIGATORS

RESEARCH men connected with the state and other institutions are invited to visit the bamboo grove at Savannah on the Ogeechee Road. This grove covers an acre of ground, and the culms rise fifty-five feet into the air, producing a dense forestlike effect with their smooth dark green culms three and four inches in diameter. It is the largest grove of the Madane bamboo (*Phyllostachys bambusoides*) east of the Mississippi and comparable in beauty to groves of similar size in Japan. Any botanist who has never seen a bamboo grove has waiting for him a thrilling experience, for the sight of a giant grass over fifty feet tall changes one's ideas of grasses just as the sight of a victoria regia changes one's ideas of water lilies or the discovery of the pterodactyl changed our ideas of lizards and birds. A simple laboratory, which is being equipped with limited living accommodations, stands in the center of the grove, and its facilities are at the disposal of

the research workers of the Department of Agriculture and other institutions upon application to this office.

While the grove is wonderfully interesting at any time, it is peculiarly fascinating about the middle of April when the new shoots four inches in diameter are coming through the ground and shooting skyward at a great rate.

Botanists to or from Florida should by all means stop and see this grove. It lies twelve miles from Savannah on a new concrete highway, the Ogeechee Road. Long distance telephone central will connect anyone with the "Government Bamboo Grove," and they can talk with Mr. Rankin, the superintendent.

DAVID FAIRCHILD

OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT

INTRODUCTION,

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

#### FLIGHTS OF HOUSE FLIES

THAT the house fly not uncommonly makes a journey of five to six miles in the space of twenty-four hours is shown by experiments conducted by the Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture. The ease with which flies travel many miles shows the importance of general sanitary measures to destroy breeding places. Fly flight tests were conducted in northern Texas, where approximately 234,000 flies of many different species were trapped, then dusted with finely powdered red chalk, and liberated. Fly traps baited with food highly relished by the flies were placed at measured intervals in all directions from the points of release. By means of these secondary traps, it was possible to determine the direction and flight of different species of flies. The tests showed that the flies, after regaining their freedom, would travel distances up to 1,000 feet in a few minutes. The screw-worm fly evidenced its power to cover a half mile in three hours, while the black blowfly traveled anywhere from half a mile to eleven miles during the first two days' release. The house fly covered over six miles in less than twenty-four hours. Observations at the Rebecca Light Shoal off